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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Crisis Care Center to Meet Critical Need in Mental Health Services

Transformational Center will serve adults, children and be a community resource for families

DETROIT, MI – April 12, 2024 - The Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) will be officially opening its doors to the 707 Crisis Care Center. DWIHN's first of many Crisis Care Centers is nearing completion this month with a ribbon cutting ceremony and guided tours.

“This is a watershed moment for community mental health in the county,” said DWIHN President/CEO Eric Doeh. “Quality crisis care has challenged systems across the country, from bed availability to staffing. We’re leading the charge to address those needs with this community resource.”

The 707 Crisis Care Center will provide direct specialized care for individuals in crisis and will ease the pressure of local emergency departments which aren’t equipped to offer the appropriate help they need. This community resource is unique because all its services are under one roof, Crisis Walk-Ins, Crisis Stabilization, and a peer-led program called B.E.S.T. (Building Empowered Supportive Transition).

“From families to law enforcement to providers, today’s ribbon-cutting is important news for people in Detroit and Wayne County,” said Senator Debbie Stabenow. “Throughout my career, I’ve been an advocate for accessible, affordable behavioral health services, and DWIHN has been an important partner in that work. Individuals and their families will now have greater access to quality behavioral healthcare and crisis care services in this region because of their leadership.”

The facility will be a place where adults and adolescents in a behavioral health crisis can be evaluated to determine their medical necessity for crisis level services. It will add 32 beds to DWIHN’s Crisis Continuum and will be a 24-hour Crisis Care Center on the first two floors with offices for crisis center staffing and other key clinical operations on the upper levels.

“Everyone deserves easy access to behavioral health care. The 707 Crisis Care Center is another critical step forward to relieve pressure on emergency departments and ensure crisis services are available when and where a person or family needs them,” said Elizabeth Hertel, Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. “As we work with local community partners to expand access to crisis care in Wayne County and across the state, our department is proud to support this project.”

The well-known midtown location has been converted and repurposed with industry leading design and technologies that will support innovative crisis care programs and services for our most vulnerable population.

“The opening of DWIHN’s Crisis Care Center is such an important and essential contribution to the Wayne County community. Unfortunately, most of us have a close friend or relative who is or has been struggling with mental and emotional issues. Therefore, it goes without saying to have a facility such as this in Wayne County staffed by those who specialize in these issues and can help is a tremendous and welcome relief,” said Wayne County Executive Warren Evans.

“With the opening of its new 707 Crisis Care Center, DWIHN is helping to fill a critical need that has existed in our city for years,” said Mayor Mike Duggan. “Individuals experiencing a mental health crisis will have a safe and supportive facility to receive care, and their family members no longer will have to wonder where their loved ones are. With the addition of these 32 new beds and 24-hour accessibility, Detroiters will have access to the kind of care they need and deserve.”

"Diverting individuals with mental health and substance use conditions away from jails and toward more appropriate and culturally competent community-based mental health care is an essential component of national, state, and local strategies," says Wayne County Sheriff Raphael Washington. "DWIHN'S 707 Crisis Care Center is a vital community resource, and we look forward to our continued partnership."

“Detroit Police Department officers are responding to 39 mental health calls on average each day, and we know that many people in crisis have limited options available to them, often having repeated law enforcement contacts instead of receiving the care they deserve,” said Chief James E. White. “The DPD looks forward to its continued partnership with DWIHN in providing Detroiters with the police response they deserve and the resources they need to stay safe. The opening of this facility is a welcome addition to the important work that we do.”

“With a population of approximately 1.7 million people, Wayne County should have at least three crisis centers to serve individuals in need, from Western Wayne to Downriver,” said Doeh. “The 707 Crisis Care Center is the start of that outreach to people where they are, providing access to quality behavioral healthcare services, no matter the zip code, age or race.”

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The Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) is the largest Community Mental Health system offering integrated health care in Michigan. Through programs and services that utilize promising best practices we promote a community that is supportive and embraces people with mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities and substance use disorder. We offer help with Infant Mental Health, Supportive Housing, and Recovery to support self-determination and improve the health, safety and quality of life for nearly 123,000 people and their families. For more information, download the myDWIHN mobile app, www.dwihn.org or contact our 24/7 Access Helpline, 800-241-4949.